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**APR 24 2006**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Sheth : DECISION ON  
Application No. 09/648,408 : PETITION  
Filed: August 24, 2000 :  
Atty Docket No. 4480 US :  
:

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed March 16, 2006.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to pay the Issue Fee within three months of the mailing date, September 16, 2005, of the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due. This Office action set a three-month nonextendable statutory period for reply. No reply having been received, the above-identified application became abandoned on December 17, 2005. (An Issue Fee transmittal was received on December 19, 2005; however, it was not made timely by a proper certificate of mailing). A courtesy Notice of Abandonment was mailed on January 25, 2006.

The required reply in the form of payment of the Issue Fee was submitted on December 19, 2005).<sup>1</sup> The petition included payment of the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(m); and the

<sup>1</sup> No Publication Fee was required. In addition, there was no distinct but concurrent requirement for new drawings.

required statement of unintentional delay. No terminal disclaimer is required.

The Office of Patent Publication has been advised of this decision.

Telephone inquiries related to this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3219.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Johnson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nancy Johnson  
Senior Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions